

A2
4. (Once Amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the medicament is [chosen] selected from the group consisting of: analgesics; muscle relaxants; antibiotics; antivirals; antihistamines; decongestants; anti-inflammatories; antacids; psychotherapeutic agents; insulin; vitamins; minerals; and cardiovascular agents.

Sub B2
7. (Once Amended) A method for reducing the amount of agent necessary to achieve an effect in an individual as compared a typical agent that is swallowed comprising the steps of:

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providing a chewing gum [including] consisting of a water-soluble portion, a water-insoluble base, sweeteners, flavor, and an agent that is typically swallowed by an individual to achieve a specific effect, the chewing gum including less than the typical amount of agent that is swallowed by the individual to achieve the effect;

chewing the chewing gum and thereby causing the agent to be released into the saliva of the individual; and

continuing to chew the chewing gum forcing the agent through an oral mucosa contained in a buccal cavity of the individual.

A4
9. (Once Amended) The method of Claim 8 wherein the medicament is [chosen] selected from the group consisting of: analgesics; muscle relaxants; antibiotics; antivirals; antihistamines; decongestants; anti-inflammatories; antacids; psychotherapeutic agents; and cardiovascular agents.



Please cancel Claims 13-18 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend Claims 19 and 20 as follows:

19. (Once Amended) A method of delivering a medicament comprising the steps of:

providing a chewing gum [including] consisting of a water-soluble portion, a water-insoluble base, sweeteners, flavor, and a medicament; and

chewing the chewing gum for at least 2 minutes in a buccal cavity of an individual chewing the chewing gum.

20. (Once Amended) The method of Claim 19 wherein the medicament is [chosen] selected from the group consisting of: analgesics; muscle relaxants; antibiotics; antivirals; antihistamines; decongestants; anti-inflammatories; antacids; psychotherapeutic agents; and cardiovascular agents.

Please cancel Claims 23-25 without prejudice or disclaimer.

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on October 19, 2000. The Office Action rejects Claims 1, 2, 4, and 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102, Claims 1-12, and 19-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 and Claims 4, 9, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112. In response, Claims 1, 4, 7, 9, 19, and 20 have been amended and Claims 13-18 and 23-25 cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants are submitting herewith a clean set of the newly amended claims. Applicants

